In the Specification:

Please amend the specification to replace the paragraph that begins on page 11, line 13 as follows:

Referring to equation 2 15, a sample's spectrum defines the wavelength channel values u_n, and the optical filter's transmission spectrum is defined according to the regression vector constants b_n. Thus, if light from the sample passes through the optical filter, the filter's output is the dot product of the sample's spectrum and the regression vector components in wavelength space. The addition of the offset value a_0 to the filter's output therefore provides the solution to the regression vector formula at equation 2 15, i.e. the value of the desired characteristic for the sample.